

8:30 am

KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

July 26, 2026

9th Sunday after Pentecost



*Congregation responses in **Bold**.*

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C **Amen.**

OPENING SONG

Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God

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GREETING

P The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

LET'S TALK

Children's Time

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YOUR LOVE NEVER FAILS Anthony Skinner, Chris McClarney CCLI Song# 533172 © 2008 Thankyou Music Ltd. (admin by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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VERSE



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and His right - eous -
 2. Man shall not live by bread a - lone but by ev - 'ry
 3. Ask and it shall be giv - en un - to you, seek and ye shall



ness, and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you—
 word that pro - ceeds from the mouth of God—
 find, knock and the door shall be o - pened un - to you—



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - - - ia!
 Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - - - ia!
 Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - - - ia!

Reading Romans 8:26-39

L A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

These words celebrate the depth of God's actions for us. Through Christ's death for us and the activity of the Spirit praying for us, we are fused to God's love poured out in Jesus Christ. Nothing, not even death itself, is able to separate us from such incredible divine love.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

L Word of God, word of life. **C Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Throughout Matthew's gospel, Jesus and his disciples proclaim the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near!" Here, Jesus offers several brief parables that explore the implications of this announcement for people's lives.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."³³ He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."⁴⁴ "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field."⁴⁵ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it."⁴⁷ "Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad."⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."⁵¹ "Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes."⁵² And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

SONG OF RESPONSE

Your Love Never Fails

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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

A With the people of God in Christ now and in every time, let us confess our faith.

C **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

VERSE

7 Noth - ing can sep - a - rate;
The wind is strong, and the wa - ter's deep, but

11 E - ven if I ran a - way, Your love nev - er fails.
I'm not a - lone here in these o - pen seas; Your love nev - er fails.

16 I know I still make mis - takes, but You have new mer - cies for me
The chas - m is far too wide, I nev - er thought I'd reach the

20 ev - 'ry - day; Your love nev - er fails.
oth - er side; Your love nev - er fails.

CHORUS

29 You stay the same through the a - ges; Your love nev - er chang -
es. There may be pain in the night, but joy comes in the morn - ing. And when

34 the o - ceans rage, I don't have to be a - fraid, be - cause I

38 *Last time to Coda* **INSTRUMENTAL**
know that You love me. Your love nev - er fails.

44 (1) 2 **INSTRUMENTAL** 1

51 2 **BRIDGE**
You make all things work to - geth - er for my good. You make

56 1, 2 3 *D.S. al Coda*
all things work to - geth - er for my good. You make

61 *Coda*

62 **INSTRUMENTAL**

You make

BRIDGE

all things work to - geth - er for my good. You make all things

74 **1 repeat as desired** **2** **CHORUS**

work to - geth - er for my good. You make And You stay the same

79

through the a - ges; Your love nev - er chang - es. There may be

83

pain in the night, but joy comes in the morn - ing. And when the o - ceans rage,

88

I don't have to be a - fraid, be - cause I know that You love me.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "God of grace,"
The congregation's response is: "hear our prayer."

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

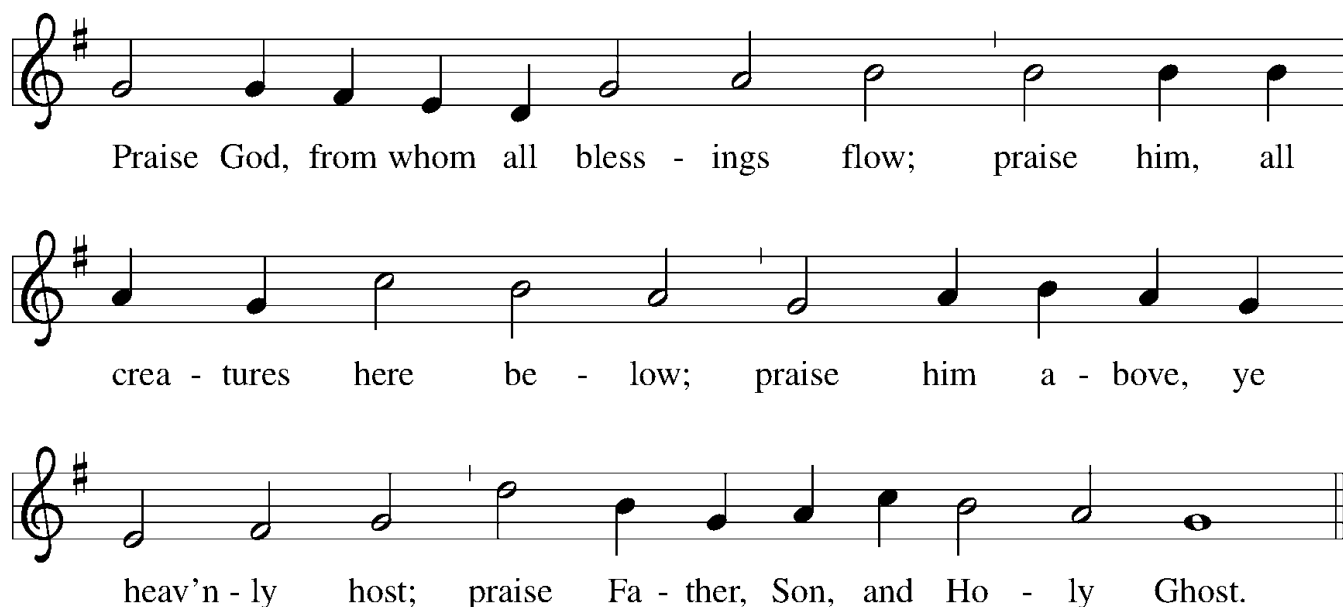
C Amen.

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you.

C And also with you.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

**OFFERING**

The offering plates are in the narthex for your use. You may also place your offering in the plate at the communion rail when you come to the altar for communion. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.

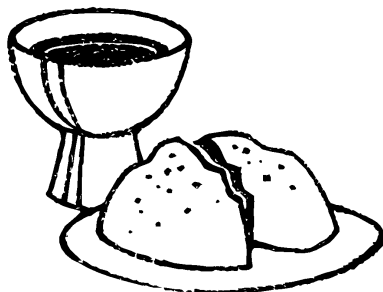
OFFERING PRAYER

P Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

We have two options for Communion during this time. You are free to come forward to receive the bread and pre-filled cups of wine from our clergy and lay assistants, returning to your seats after you've deposited the empty cup and following the guidance of our ushers; or you may continue to use the pre-packaged Communion elements which are available from the ushers at the entrance to the Sanctuary. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit let us pray, as Jesus taught.

C **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION

P Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

You may receive the Elements as the words are said:

The Body of Christ given for you; The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Healing Prayer is available under the balcony during Communion if you desire prayer.

COMMUNION SONG

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.	2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees. Refrain
Refrain When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.	3 Let us praise God together on our knees; let us praise God together on our knees. Refrain

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His Grace.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✠ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

African American Spiritual

Refrain



Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing

in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the

spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,
2 . . All a - round me looked so fine,
3 . . Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

Refrain

out of his mouth came fire and smoke.
asked the my Lord if all was mine.
chills the bod - y but not the soul.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.